

RECEIVED

AUG 10 2000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

CaF₂ 0-25
B₂O₃ 0-10
K₂O 0-8
MgO 0-5.

Please amend claim 6 by placing a period -- at the end of the claim.

Please cancel claim 7.

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the indication of allowable subject matter with regard to claim 6. However, it is believed that claim 1 should also be in condition for allowance.

As correctly stated in the Official Action, claims 1-4 and 6-9 are currently pending. By the present amendment, the features of claim 7 are now included in claim 1. Accordingly, upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-4, 6 and 8-9 will be pending in the present application.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 second paragraph has been obviated by the present amendment. Accordingly, the only rejection remaining is a single prior art rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Prior to addressing the rejection, a brief description of the background of the present invention is provided for the convenience of the Examiner.

The present invention concerns a novel method for treating inflammation. More specifically, the present invention concerns the treatment of inflammation with bioactive glass. Surprisingly, applicants have found that bioactive glasses are useful in treating inflammation. While not being bound to any particular theory or mechanism, the bioactive glass may act as an absorbent of several inflammatory cytokines and thus act to shunt the overall inflammatory response. Evidence also suggests that the reactivity of the bioactive glass releases ions into the extracellular environment which increases the extracellular